

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air a
politically-motivated
anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
represents an
illegal campaign
contribution and
should not be
allowed under any
standard of "fair
use."

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. When news
divisions are merged
with entertainment
divisions and
newscasts are
required to make a
profit rather than
just report the
news, news becomes
sensationalistic
rather than
informative and our
democracy cannot
function
effectively. When
so-called news
decisions are
ideologically
driven, as in this
case with Sinclair,
it's even worse for
our democracy.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.